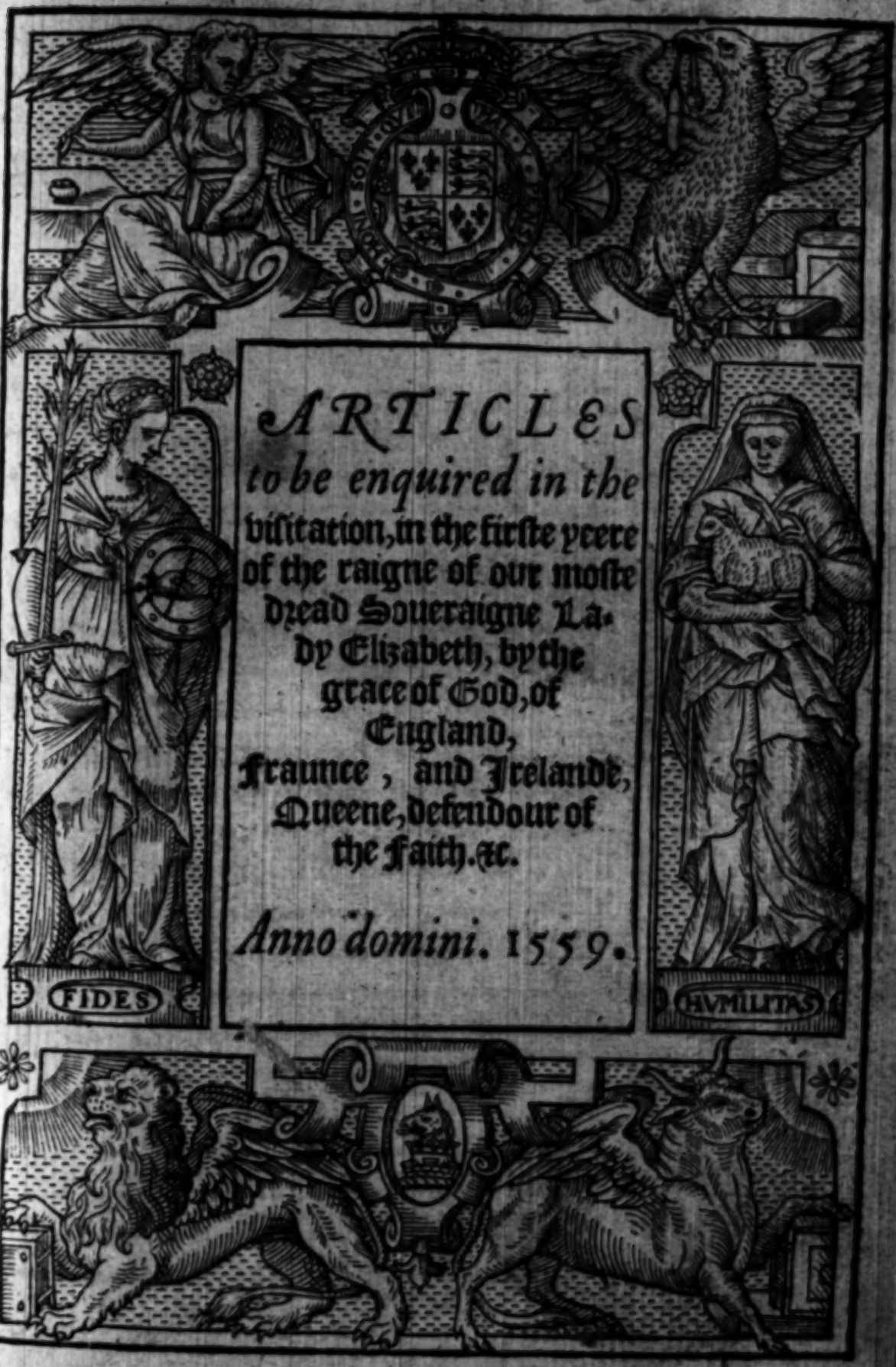
H-11-38-3



ARTICLES to be enquired in the visitation, in the firste yeere of the raigne of our moste dread Soueraigne Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God, of England, Fraunce, and Irelande, Queene, defendour of the Faith. &c.

Anno domini. 1559.

Irst, whether anye Parson, Vicar or Curat be resident continually vpon his benefice doing his dutye in Preaching, reading and duely ministring the holy Sacramẽtes. 1 Residencie.

Item whether in their Churches & Chappels, all images, shrines, all tables, candlesticks trindelles, and rolles of wax, pictures, paintinges, and all other monumentes of faigned and false myracles, pilgrimages, Idolatrie, and superstition, be removed, abolished, and destroyed. 2 False myracles.

Item, whether they doe not euery holy daye when they haue no Sermon, immediatelye after the Gospell, openly, plainely and distinctlye, recite to their parishioners in the pulpit, the Lords prayer, the beleefe, and the ten commaundementes in English. 3 The Lordes prayer.

Item, whether they doe charge fathers and mothers, maisters, and gouernors of youth, to bring them vp in some vertuous studie and occupation. 4 To bring vp youth.

Curates. 5 Item whether suche beneficed men, as be lawfully absent from their benefices, doe leaue their cures to a rude and vnlearned person, and not to an honest, wel learned, and expert Curat, which can and will teache you wholesome doctrine.

Reading the scripture. 6 Item, whether they do discourage any person from reading of any part of the Byble, eyther in Latine or Englishe, and doe not rather comforte and exhort euery person to reade the same at conuenient times, as the very lyuely worde of God, and the speciall foode of mans soule.

Tauernes and games. 7 Item whether Parsons, Vicars, Curates, and other ministers, be common haunters and resorters to Tauernes or Alehouses, geuing themselues to drinking, ryoting, and playing at vnlawfull games, and doe not occupie themselues in the reading or hearing of some parte of holye scripture, or in some other Godly exercise.

Preachers. 8 Item, whether they haue admitted any man to preache in their cures, not being lawfully licensed therunto, or haue bene licensed accordingly.

Superstition. 9 Item, whether they vse to declare to their parishioners, anye thing to the extolling or setting foorth of vaine and superstitious religion, pilgrimages, reliques, or images, or lighting of can-

candels, kissing, kneeling, or decking of the same images.

Item, whether they haue one booke or register kept, wherein they write the daye of euerye wedding, christning and burying. 10 Register.

Item, whether they haue exhorted the people to obedience to the Queenes Maiestie, and Ministers, and to charity and loue one to another. 11 Obedience

Item, whether they haue admonished their parishioners, that they ought not to presume to receiue the Sacrament of the bodye and blood of Christ, before they can say perfectly the Lordes prayer, the articles of the faith, and the ten commaundementes in Englishe. 12 The Sacrament.

Item, whether they be resident vpon their benefices, & keepe hospitalitie or no. And if they bee absent, and keepe no hospitalitie, whether they do relieue their parishioners, & what they giue them. 13 Hospitalitie.

Item, whether Proprietaries, Parsons, Vicars, and Clarkes, hauing Churches, Chappels, and Mansions, doe keepe their Chauncels, Rectories, Vicarages, and al other houses appertayning to them in due reparations. 14 Reparations.

Item, whether they doe counsayle or moue their parishioners, rather to pray in a tongue not knowen, then in Englishe, or put their trust in anye cer- 15 Prayer in Englishe.

Beades. certaine number of prayers, as in saying ouer a number of Beades, or other like.

16 Item, whether they haue receiued anye per-
Diffamed persons. sons to the Communion, being openlye knowne to be out of charitie with their neighboures, or diffamed with any notorious crime, and not re-
fourmed.

17 Item, whether they haue prouided, and haue
Poore mens boxe. a strong chest for the poore mens Boxe, and set and fastned the same in a place of the Churche, most conuenient.

18 Item, whether they haue dilligently called vp-
Testament. on, exhorted and mooued their parishioners, and
et vltima Voluntas. especially when they make their testamentes to geue to the sayde poore mens boxe, and to bestowe that vppon the poore, which they were woont to bestowe vpon pilgrimages, pardons, trentalles and vpon other like blinde deuotions.

19 Item, whether they haue denyed to visite the
Sick. Buriall. sycke, or burie the dead being brought to the Churche.

20 Item, whether they haue bought their Be-
Simonie. nefices, or come to them by fraude, guyle, deceit, or simonie.

21 Item, whether they haue giuen open moni-
Adulterers. tion to their parishioners, to detecte and present to

to their Ordinary all adulterers & fornicatours, and such men as haue two wiues liuing within their parishes.

Item, whether they haue monished their parishioners openly, that they should not sell, geue, nor otherwise alienate, anye of their Churche goods. 22 Church goods.

Item, whether they, or anye of them doe keepe mo benefices and other Ecclesiasticall promotions then they ought to doe, not hauing sufficient licenses, and dispensations therevnto, and howe many they be, and their names, 23 Of any benefices.

Item, whether they minister the holye Communion any otherwise, then onelye after suche fourme and maner, as it is set fooith by the common authoritie of the Queenes Maiestie and the Parliament. 24 Communion.

Item, whether you know any person within your parrishe or elsewhere, that is a letter of the worde of God to be read in Englishe, or sincerely preached in place and times conuenient. 25 Letters of the word or preaching.

Item, whether in the time of the Letanye, or any other common prayer, in the tyme of the Sermon or Homilie, and when the Priest readeth the scriptures to the parishioners, anye person haue departed out of the Churche without iust and necessarye caule, or disturbe the 26 Goers out of the Church.

Minister.

Minister otherwise.

27 Churche money. Item, whether the money comming and rysing of any cattell, or other moueable stockes of the Churche, and money giuen and bequeathed to the finding of Torches, Lightes, Tapers, or Lampes, not payde out of any landes haue not bene employed to the poore mens chest.

28 Keepers of the Churche money. Item, who hath the sayde stockes and money in their handes, and what be their names.

29 Contempt of Preistes. Item, whether any vndiscreete person do vncharitably contemne & abuse Preistes and Ministers of the Church.

30 The kinges Grammer. Item, whether there be any other Grammer taught in any schoole within this Diocesse, then that which is set foorth by the authoritie of kyng Henry the eyght.

31 The time of Seruice. Item, whether the seruice of the church be done at due and conuenient howers.

32 Talkers in the Church. Item, whether any haue vsed to commune, iangle, and talke in the churche in the time of the prayer, reading of the Homilie, preaching, reading or declaring of the scripture.

33 Heresies. Item, whether any haue wilfullye maynteyned and defended any heresies, errours, or false opinions, contrary to the faith of Christ and holy scripture.

Item,

Item, whether any be common drunkardes, swearers or blasphemers of the name of God. 34 Drunkards.

Item, whether any haue committed adulterie, fornication or incest, or bee common bawdes, or receiuers of such euill persons, are vehemently suspected of any of the premisses. 35 Aduouterers. et Lenones.

Item, whether any be brawlers, slaunderers, chyders, scholders, & sowers of discord betweene one person and an other. 36 Brawlers.

Item, whether you knowe anye that doe vse charmes, sorceries, inchauntmentes, inuocations, circles, witchcrafts, soothsaying, or any lyke craftes or imaginations inuented by the Deuill, and specially in the tyme of womens trauayle. 37 Sorcerers.

Item, whether the Churches, Pulpittes, and other necessaries appertaining to the same, be sufficiently repayred, and if they be not, in whose default the same is. 38 Pulpittes.

Item, whether you know any, that in contempt of their owne parishe Church doe resorte to any other churche. 39 Resorters to other Churches.

Item, whether any Inholders, or Alehouse kepers, do vse commonly to sell meate and drinke in the time of common praier, preaching, reading of the Homilies, or scripture. 40 Inholders.

41 Item, whether you know any to bee maried within the degrees prohibited by the Lawes of God, or that be separated or diuorsed without the degrees prohibited by the law of God, and whether any such haue maried againe.

Deuorse.

42 Item, whether you knowe any to haue made priuie contractes of matrimonie, not calling two or moe witnesses thereunto, nor hauing thereto the consent of their parents.

Priuie contractes.

43 Item, whether they haue maryed solemnelye, the banes not first lawfully asked,

Banes.

44 Item, whether you knowe anye executors, or administratours of dead mens goodes whiche doe not only bestowe suche of the sayde goodes, as were giuen and bequeathed, or appointed to be distributed among the poore people repayring of high wayes, finding of poore schollers, or marrying of poore maydens, or such other like charitable deedes.

Executours.

45 Item whether you know any that keepe in their houses any vndefaced Images, Tables Pictures, paintinges, or other Monumentes of faigned and false myracles, pilgrimages, idolatrie and superstition, and do adore them, and specially suche as haue bene set vp in Churches Chappels and Oratories.

Images.

46 Item, what bookes of holye Scripture you haue

Bookes.

haue deliuered to be burnt, or otherwise destroyed, and to whome ye haue deliuered the same.

Item, what bribes the accusers, promoters, persecuters, Ecclesiastical Judges, and other the Commissioners appointed within the seuerall Diocesse of this Realme, haue receiued by themselues or other of those persons whiche were in trouble, apprehended or imprisoned for Religion. 47 Bribes.

Item, what goods moueable, lands, fees, offices, or promotions, hath ben wrongfully taken awaye in the time of Queene Maries raigne, from anye person whiche fauoured the Religion now set foorth. 48 Losse of goods.

Item, how many persons for religion haue died by fyre, famine, or otherwise, or haue ben imprisoned for the same. 49 How many burnt.

Item, that you make a true presentment of the number of all the persons whiche dyed within your parishes, sithen the feast of saincte John the Baptist, which was in the yeere of our Lord God a thousand fiue hundred, fiftie and eyght, vnto the same feast last past, making therein a playne distinct declaration, howe manye men, women, and men children the same were, and the names of the men. 50 Certificat of the dead.

Item, whether you knowe anye man in your 51 Secrets Masses.

parishe, secretely, or in vnlawfull conuenticles, say, or heare Masse, or any other seruice prohibited by the law.

52 Item, whether you knowe any person in your parish, to be a slaunderer of his neighbours, or a sower of discord betweene partie and partie, man and wife, parentes & their children, or that hath inuented, bruted, or set fourth any rumours, false and seditious tales, slaunders, or makers, bringers, byers, sellers, kepers, or conueighers of any vnlawful bokes which might stirre and prouoke sedition, or maintaine superstitious seruice within this realme, or any ayders, counsailers, procurers or maintainers therevnto.

Falce rumors. Vnlawfull bookes.

53 Item, whether the Churche of your parish be now vacant or no, who is the patrone thereof, how long it hath bene vacant, who doeth receiue the tithes, oblations, and other commodities, during the time of the vacation, and by what authoritie, and in what estate the saide Churche is, at this time, and how long the Parson or Vicar hath had that benefice.

Patrone. Tithes. Vacation.

54 Item whether any Minstrelles, or any other persons, doe vse to sing or say any songes, or Ballades that be vile or vncleane, and specially in derision of any godly order now set foorth and established.

Minstrelles

55 Item whether the Letany in Englishe with the

Letanie in English.

the Epistle & Gospel which was by the Queenes highnesse proclamation willed to be read to the people, were put in vse in your Churches, and if not, who were the letters thereof.

Item, whether the Curates and Ministers do leisurely, playnely, and distinctly reade the publique prayers, Chapters and Homilies, as they ought to doe. 56 Distinct reading.

God saue the Queene.

IMPRINTED AT
London, by Christopher Barkar, *Printer to the Queenes*
Maiestie.

Cum priuilegio Regiæ Maiestatis.

fl-11-38

¶ A BOOKE of certaine Canons,

concernyng some parte of the discipline of the Churche of England.

In the yeare of our Lord.

5

AT LONDON
Printed by Iohn Daye, dwellyng ouer Aldersgate.

¶ Cum gratia & Priuilegio Regiæ Maiestatis.